

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 04357 01 OF 02 170612Z
ACTION EA-12

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-----112703 170620Z /11

P 170430Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO USICA WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
CINCPAC HONOLULU
SECSTATE WASHDC 6091

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 WELLINGTON 04357

FOR CINCPAC FOR USICA ADVISOR, SECSTATE FOR EA/ANZ

EO 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT

1. THE VISIT TO NEW ZEALAND PORTS BY THE GUIDED MISSILE CRUISER, USS "HORNE" AND THE GUIDED MISSILE DESTROYER USS "ROBISON", BROUGHT NEWSPAPER QUERIES AS TO THE NUCLEAR WEAPON CAPACITY OF THE VESSELS. THE CHRISTCHURCH "PRESS" HEADLINED NUCLEAR WEAPON RUMOURS OVER A RATHER CONFUSED FRONT PAGE ARTICLE, WHILE TELEVISION TWO NEWS MENTIONED THE RUMOURS AND THEN PROCEEDED TO GIVE A GOOD PLAY TO A CONCERT AT THE CANTERBURY STUDENTS' UNION BUILDING BY A NAVY BAND CARRIED BY THE "HORNE". OTHER PAPERS IN DUNEDIN, WELLINGTON, AND AUCKLAND CARRIED FAVORABLE ARTICLES.
 2. MOST PRESS COMMENT DURING THE WEEK DEALT WITH CONTINUING CONCERN OVER THE GOVERNMENT'S ATTEMPT TO MUZZLE CONTROVERSIAL POLITICAL FIGURES WHILE VISITING NEW ZEALAND AND THE EFFECTS THIS COULD HAVE ON FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN THE COUNTRY.
 3. JAPAN AND NEW ZEALAND TALKS BROKE DOWN AFTER THE UNCLASSIFIED
- UNCLASSIFIED
- PAGE 02 WELLIN 04357 01 OF 02 170612Z
- PRIME MINISTER'S INTERVENTION ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE AGREEMENT WORDING WAS NOT CLEAR ENOUGH. ALSO SOUTH KOREA INDICATED THAT IT WAS PREPARED TO TAKE A LARGER PROPORTION OF THE FISHING AVAILABLE IN THE ECONOMIC ZONE.
4. INTERNATIONALLY, THE DEATH OF THE POPE CLAIMED MOST HEADLINES AS DID THE U.S. BREAKTHROUGH IN THE NUCLEAR

ENERGY FIELD WITH ITS SUCCESSFUL FUSION EXPERIMENTS. BOTH RADIO AND NEWSPAPERS ALSO HEADLINED PROBLEMS BEING EXPERIENCED BY MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, WHILE THERE WAS SOME EDITORIAL COMMENT CONCERNING THE RECENTLY SIGNED PACT BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN AND CHAIRMAN HUA'S VISIT TO EUROPE. EDITORIAL WRITERS SAW BOTH AS MOVES BY CHINA TO STRENGTHEN ITS POSITION AGAINST RUSSIA AND ALSO AS A WAY TO FURTHER IMPROVING U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS.

5. THE "EVENING POST", UNDER THE HEADING, "U.S. LEAVES N.Z., AUSTRALIA IN PRIMARY PACIFIC ROLE," RAN AN ICA-SUPPLIED ARTICLE ON AID ADMINISTRATOR SULLIVAN'S TESTIMONY BEFORE THE FOREIGN RELATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE.

6. USDA PARTICIPANT, PHILIP MACKIE, CONTINUED HIS PROGRAM IN NEW ZEALAND WITH VISITS TO MASSEY UNIVERSITY ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 11 AND DISCUSSIONS WITH FARMERS IN THE PALMERSTON NORTH AREA OVER THE WEEKEND. ON MONDAY, MR MACKIE VISITED THE RUAKURA AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION IN HAMILTON AND DISCUSSED ITS OPERATIONS WITH STATION OFFICIALS. HE ALSO HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE FACULTY OF THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO, AND AN EVENING SESSION WITH THE LOCAL BRANCH OF THE FEDERATED FARMERS. IN HIS PROGRAM, MR MACKIE WAS ABLE TO GATHER INFORMATION ON NEW ZEALAND'S PRESENT AGRICULTURAL SITUATION, AS WELL AS INFORMING LOCAL OFFICIALS ON U.S. UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 WELLIN 04357 01 OF 02 170612Z

COMMODITY IMPORT POLICIES. POST CONSIDERS HIS VISIT USEFUL IN BOTH AREAS AND HAS HELPED CONSIDERABLY IN POST'S OBJECTIVE II AND PROJECT NZ-04. MEDIA COVERAGE OF HIS VISIT HAS BEEN HEAVY AND POSITIVE.

7. ON AUGUST 16, BERTRAM TURETSKY, AN AMERICAN DOUBLE BASS PLAYER, GAVE A RECITAL IN THE EMBASSY AUDITORIUM. TURETSKY IS IN WELLINGTON UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE MUSIC FEDERATION AND THE NEW ZEALAND MINISTRY OF RECREATION AND SPORT. ABOUT 60 MUSICIANS, PROFESSORS OF MUSIC AND MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDED THE CONCERT AND WERE ENTHRALLED BY TURETSKY'S ABILITY.

8. TWO OF THE POST'S IV GRANTEES LEFT NEW ZEALAND THE PAST WEEK. ONE WAS ROBIN MCLAGAN, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF FEDERATED FARMERS, WHO WILL PURSUE AN ACTIVE PROGRAM CONCENTRATED IN THE AMERICAN MIDWEST; THE OTHER DAPHNE OLSEN, SENIOR RECEPTION OFFICER AT

(#)

AFFAIRS, LEFT FOR CANADA BEFORE VISITING THE U.S. ON A PARTIAL GRANT.

9. LAST WEEK, 11 REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE (#)

OF NEW ZEALAND, THE ANZ BANK, THE TREASURY,
AND THE BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES WATCHED THE VTR, "VIEW-
POINT: MONETARY ISSUES." THE SESSION WAS INTRODUCED BY
THE EMBASSY'S ECONOMIC OFFICER. POST HAS BEEN MORE
SUCCESSFUL WITH THE SPECIAL VIEWPOINT VTRS THAN WITH THE
ORIGINAL OVERALL "VIEWPOINT: INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
ISSUES."

NOTE BY OC/T: (#) OMISSIONS. CORRECTIONS TO FOLLOW.

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 04357 02 OF 02 170550Z
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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 WELLINGTON 04357

10. EMBASSY'S COMMERCIAL SECTION WAS ASSISTED BY
PROVIDING A VENUE IN AUCKLAND AT THE CENTER FOR TRAVEL
SEMINARS FOR A TOTAL OF 46 REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE
INDUSTRY. THE VTR "TOUR USA" WAS SHOWN AND AFTER THE
MEETING A NUMBER OF THEM HAD TIME TO BROWSE AROUND THE
LIBRARY AND TAKE NOTE OF REFERENCE BOOKS RELATING TO
TRAVEL.

11. IN AUCKLAND, THE AUCKLAND TECHNICAL INSTITUTE'S
ENERGY STUDIES PROGRAM CONTINUED AND TWO GROUPS FROM
THE INSTITUTE VISITED THE CENTER TO VIEW AND DISCUSS THE
VTRS "SOLAR POWER FOR FARMS" AND "SOLAR HOUSING USA."
A TOTAL OF 20 STUDENTS PLUS THE LECTURER PARTICIPATED IN
THE PROGRAM. ANDERSON

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